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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2003 July 21, 2004

Michele K. Evans, M.D.
Deputy Scientific Director
Intramural Research Program
HANDLS, Principal Investigator
NIH / NIA / GRC
5600 Nathan Shock Drive
Baltimore, Maryland 21224-6825

Dear Dr. Evans:

I would like to express my strong support for the Healthy Aging Neighborhoods of Diversity across the Life Span (HANDLS) research study that is currently being conducted by the National Institute on Aging, as part of the National Institutes of Health.

I strongly believe that all Americans - regardless of race - deserve the best medical treatment available. The best treatment comes from the best research. I am confident that the HANDLS research project will lead to a greater understanding in epidemiology, aging, and health disparities. HANDLS is an investment that will help Americans to live longer and to live better.

As Ranking Member of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pension Committee's Subcommittee on Aging, I especially know how useful the research that HANDLS is currently working on will be in the future. I look forward to following the progress and developments in the HANDLS research study.

You have my heartfelt thanks for all your hard work, and I wish you the best of success with the project. If I may be of assistance to you in the future, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,

Balus a. Milathi

Barbara A. Mikulski United States Senator

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